

## HOW TO CERTIFY AND BECOME A LICENSED UTAH PESTICIDE APPLICATOR

Utah has three classifications of Pesticide Applicators:

1. **Commercial** - Any person who uses any pesticide for hire or compensation.
2. **Non-Commercial** - Any person working as an individual or an employee of a firm, entity, or government agency who uses or demonstrates the use of any restricted-use pesticide and who does not qualify as a private or commercial applicator.
3. **Private** - Any person or his employer who uses or supervises the use of any restricted-use pesticide for the purpose of producing any agricultural commodity on property owned or rented by applicator or employer.

Applicators are categorized in one or more of the categories defined below, based on the application site and the type of work they perform.

1. **Agriculture**
  - (a) **Plant** - Applicators using pesticides to control pests in the production of agricultural crops.
  - (b) **Animal** - Applicators using pesticides on animals or places which animals inhabit.
2. **Forest** - Applicators using pesticides in forests, forest nurseries, or forest seed producing areas.
3. **Ornamental and Turf** - Applicators using pesticides to control pests in the maintenance and production of ornamental trees, shrubs, flowers and turf; also pests around foundations, sidewalks, driveways and other similar locations.
4. **Seed Treatment** - Applicators using pesticides on seeds.
5. **Aquatic**
  - (a) **Surface Water** - Applicators applying pesticides to standing or running water, excluding public health-related activities.
  - (b) **Sewer Root Control** - Applicators using pesticides to control roots in sewers or in related systems.
6. **Right-Of-Way** - Applicators using pesticides in maintaining public roads, electric power lines, pipelines, railway rights-of-way, or other similar areas.
7. **Structural and Health-Related** - Applicators using pesticides in, on or around food handling establishments, human dwellings, institutions such as schools, hospitals, industrial establishments, warehouses, storage units and any other structures and adjacent areas public or private to control household pests, fabric pests, stored-products pests, and vertebrate pests.

8. Public Health - State, federal or other government employees, or persons working under their supervision using, or supervising the use of, restricted-use pesticides in public health programs for control of pests having medical and public health importance.
9. Regulatory - Limited to state and federal employees, or persons under their direct supervision, who apply pesticides in a mechanical ejection device, a protective collar, or other methods to control regulated pests.
10. Demonstration, Consultation and Research - Individuals who demonstrate to the public the proper use, techniques, benefits, and methods of restricted-use pesticides. Also persons conducting field research with restricted-use pesticides. In addition they shall meet the specific standards applicable to their particular activity.
11. Aerial Application - Applicators applying pesticides by aircraft. Aerial applicators are also required to certify in categories of intended application.
12. Vertebrate Animal - Applicators applying pesticides in the control of vertebrate pests outdoors.
13. Fumigation/Stored Commodities - Applicators using fumigants to control pests in soil, structures, railroad cars, stored grains, manufactured products, grain elevators, flour mills, similar areas and items.
14. Wood-Preservation - Applicators who apply wood-preservative pesticides to wood products such as fence posts, electrical poles, railroad ties or any other form of wood products.
15. Wood-Destroying Organisms - Applicators using pesticides to control termites, carpenter ants, wood-boring or tunneling insects, bees, wasps, wood decaying fungi and any other pests destroying wood products.

**Commercial and Non-Commercial Applicators** must pass a general and category test in which they would like to be certified with a score of 70% or above. Applicators have ninety days to pass any failed test(s) or begin the process again.

There is a fee of \$20.00 for all Private and Non-Commercial applicators. All commercial applicators pay a \$35.00 annual or \$65.00 triennial license fee. **All fees must be paid before taking any tests.** A check is preferable and should be made out to the **Utah Department of Agriculture and Food**. Cash will be received but should be for the exact amount. Credit cards are not accepted at this time. A replacement fee of \$15.00 will be charged for all reprinted licenses.

Study materials are available at the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food/Plant Industry in Salt Lake City or any district field office. A minimum of three books is suggested: **Applying Pesticides Correctly, Supplemental Guide for Private Applicators, and a category manual** for those categories in which you wish to be certified.

It is recommended that these books be studied thoroughly. When you are ready to take the written tests, make an appointment at the field office nearest you. You must finish all testing there and not go to another office to retake the test you failed. Tests are given by appointment at each field office.

You will be allowed to bring scratch paper, pencil and a calculator. Unit conversion, calibration formulas and label reference sheets will be available at the testing site. You should allow yourself two hours for testing. The test administrator will issue you a temporary license that is good for 30 days after passing the required tests. A permanent license will be mailed within 30 days from the Salt Lake office.

The Compliance Specialist will not be allowed to discuss any of the answers with you if you fail any of the tests, but you may study the material and retake the test the same day, time and scheduling permitting. An applicator may take the test three times before an additional \$15.00 will be charged for each additional two tests.

**Private Applicators** are required to take a written open book test that consists of a general and at least one category test. A score of 70% or above is required to pass each test.

Pesticide information is also available at the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food web site; [www.ag.utah.gov](http://www.ag.utah.gov). Click on "pesticide applicators" on the right side of the screen in the column titled "Find it Fast".